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USWEST

BB Nugent
Executive Director-
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WRITTEN EX PARTE

March 20, 1997

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 222, SC-1170
Washington, DC 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: U S WEST Communications' Tariff Filing in Compliance
with CC Docket No. 96-128/Order and U S WEST's Comparably
Efficient Interconnection Plan for Payphone Services

Dear Mr. Caton:

Last week, U S WEST and other Bell Operating Companies received an informal data request from the Commission staff asking a series of questions. These questions relate to the interpretation of the Commission's Payphone Orders¹, in CC Docket No. 96-128, implementing § 276 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Act). In those orders, the Commission concluded that the Act's prohibitions on Bell Operating Companies (BOCs) subsidizing and discriminating in favor of their own payphone operations will be satisfied by requiring the BOCs to comply with the Commission's Computer III and Open Network Architecture (ONA) non-structural safeguards in their provision of pay telephone services². Specifically, the Commission has required that each BOC file a Comparably Efficient Interconnection (CEI) Plan for payphone services demonstrating its compliance with CEI parameters³. In articulating the requirements, the Commission noted that the BOCs must offer, on a tariffed, nondiscriminatory basis, central office transmission services utilized by their own payphone operations. The Commission refused, however, to impose any further immediate unbundling requirements⁴.

¹ In the Matter of Implementation of the Pay Telephone Reclassification and Compensation Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, CC Docket Nos. 96-128, et al., Report and Order, FCC 96-388, rel. Sep. 20, 1996 ("Order"), and Order on Reconsideration, FCC 96-439, rel. Nov. 8, 1996 ("Recon Order") (collectively "Orders").

² Order ¶ 199.

³ Id. ¶ 202.

⁴ The Commission noted that BOCs must unbundle additional network elements when requested, based on specific criteria established in the Computer III and ONA proceedings, and may be subject to additional unbundling requirements at the state level. Id. ¶¶ 146, 148, 200; Recon Order ¶ 165.

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U S WEST filed its CEI Plan (Plan) for payphone services with the Commission on January 6, 1997. This Plan complies with the Commission's requirements, including those related to tariffing of network services and feature/functionality that are specifically related to providing payphone services. The U S WEST Plan is modeled on the Company's other existing approved CEI plans. The Plan individually addresses each of the Commission's imposed "equal access" parameters and non-structural safeguards for the provision of payphone services it intends to offer.⁵

The Plan also covers non-discrimination reporting, disclosure of network information, compliance with Customer Proprietary Network Information requirements and samples of relevant tariffs, catalogues and price lists. In addition, necessary Cost Allocation Manual changes have already been completed.

Following are U S WEST's responses to the tariffing questions posed by Jim Schlichting of the Competitive Pricing Division. In addressing each of these questions, U S WEST understands that the questions are asked in the context of services and features/functions that are network based and specifically required for the provision of payphone services.

Question No. 1: Did U S WEST Communications file in its tariff every feature/function that U S WEST's payphone business, U S WEST Public Services (USWPS), obtains from U S WEST Communications, Inc. (USWC) at the state level?

Answer: Yes. Exhibit A of the U S WEST CEI Plan provides a list and description of the network services and features/functionalities that are used by USWPS specifically for the provision of payphone services. Exhibit B to USW's CEI Plan, Section titled "Tariff/Price List/Catalog References for Basic Services and Features," provides a list of the basic services used by USWPS that are currently available on an unbundled basis through state tariffs, catalogues, or price lists. The remainder of Exhibit B contains illustrative tariffs reflecting USWC's state and federal filings where the basic service or feature/functionality is used by USWPS, but the applicable tariffs are not yet effective. USWC requested all such tariffs to be effective April 15, 1997.

The basic services are:

- a. Smart Public Access Line (Smart PAL)
- b. Basic Public Access Line (Basic PAL)
- c. Single Party Flat Rate - Business (1FB) (Iowa and Minnesota)

⁵ Id. ¶ 203.

The network based payphone specific features/functions are:

- a. Answer Supervision - Line Side
- b. Blocking for 10XXX1+/10XXX011+
- c. International Blocking
- d. Billed Number Screening (Incoming Fraud Protection)
- e. CUSTOMNET (Outgoing Fraud Protection)

The above features/functions have been filed in USWC Tariff FCC No. 5, Section 13, Original Pages 13-41.9 - 13-41.11. International Blocking is currently tariffed at Section 13, Page 13-35.

See attached Exhibit A, U S WEST CEI Plan, for a description of each service feature.

See attached Exhibit B, Tariff Price List/Catalog References for Basic Services and Features for the state tariff references.

U S WEST is not aware of any nontariffed network based and payphone specific features/functions that are used by USWPS or by IPPs. The tariffed provisions are discussed above. With the exception of International Blocking (which is already federally tariffed), each of the features/functions listed above are used by USWPS in its payphone operations.

Note: USWC's Smart PAL is provided as a unitary service. There are no "unbundled features" on this line that will be used by USWPS and, therefore, consistent with the Commission's Payphone Orders, no unbundled features are being tariffed. (In response to a supplemental question, this confirms that the Smart PAL includes coin supervision as an inherent part of the service.)

Question No. 2: Did USWC file in its federal tariff filing every feature/function any independent payphone provider has available in USWC state tariffs?

Answer: Yes. U S WEST filed every network feature/function that an independent payphone provider has available in USWC state tariffs that specifically relates to payphone services. These are detailed in Exhibit B to the U S WEST CEI plan as discussed above. U S WEST did not detail the myriad of other services including Message Toll Service, Touchtone, Optional Calling Plans, Custom and CLASS Calling features, Directory Listings and Operator Services that can be subscribed to by local exchange service customers, including IPPs, but which are not specifically related to payphone service.

Question No. 2(a): What is available to IPPs in USWC's state tariffs which were not included in the USWC federal tariff filing?

Answer: As described above, all network features/functions in existing state tariffs used by IPPs and which are specifically related to payphone service are included in USWC federal filings. Touchtone is described in two USWC state tariffs. However, it is present on each and every line -- and it does not limit the operational characteristics of the payphone. Touchtone does not meet the criteria of being a payphone specific service or feature/function. The basic transmission services are only tariffed in the states, consistent with the Recon Order.

Question No. 3: Did U S WEST Communications file nonchargeable, as well as chargeable, features/functions in the federal tariff filing?

Answer: Yes. Of the features filed, Billed Number Screening is nonchargeable. U S WEST has not identified any other nonchargeable network feature/function that is specifically related to payphone service. In response to supplemental questions, the following is provided: Touchtone is provided as a part of the line in each state and not separately identified as a payphone element because it is not payphone specific. Likewise, customer elections for basic service configuration which resemble an "on-off" choice, such as one-way vs. two-way service, are not tariffed as unbundled elements because they are integral to the service configuration.

Question No. 3(a): What nonchargeable features/functions are in the state tariffs and not in the federal tariff filing?

Answer: None. USWC has no nonchargeable network features/functions for payphone service in the state tariffs that are not in the federal tariff.

Question No. 4: Did USWC file new, as well as existing, features/functions in the federal tariff?

Answer: For U S WEST Communications, all network features/functions which are or which are presently expected to be used by payphone providers are contained in present state tariffs for network payphone service. Thus, no new features/functions were filed in USWC's tariffs. To comply with the Payphone Orders, USWC filed new federal tariffs for the following existing payphone specific features/functions:

Mr. William F. Caton
March 20, 1997
Page 5

- a. Answer Supervision - Line Side
- b. Blocking for 10XXX1+/10XXX011+
- c. Billed Number Screening (Incoming Fraud Protection)
- d. CUSTOMNET (Outgoing Fraud Protection)

International Blocking is already in the federal tariff and is not modified by this filing.

Question No. 4(a): Identify new features/functions filed in the federal tariff.

Answer: None.

Acknowledgment and date of receipt of this submission are requested. A duplicate letter is provided for this purpose.

Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

BB Nugent

Attachments: Exhibit A
Exhibit B, Tariff Price List/Catalog References for
Basic Services and Features

cc: Ms. Kathleen Franco
Mr. Gene Gold
Ms. Carol Matthey
Mr. Michael Pryor
Ms. Mary Beth Richards
Mr. James Schlichting
Mr. Richard Welch

EXHIBIT A

U S WEST Basic Services and Features

Basic Services

Smart Public Access Line (Smart PAL)

A voice grade circuit switched line provides a payphone service provider with a line side connection to the circuit switched network. This line side connection could include alternative types of network connection, address and supervisory in-band or out-of-band signaling. In addition, the line determines when a coin should be collected or returned and, through Automated Coin Toll Service (ACTS), rates all coin paid long distance calls.

Basic Public Access Line (Basic PAL)

A voice grade circuit switched line provides a payphone service provider with a line side connection to the circuit switched network. This line side connection could include alternative types of network connection, address and supervisory in-band or out-of-band signaling. The pay telephone set contains micro processors which perform all the required coin control functions and coin sent paid rating.

Single Party Flat Rate - Business (1FB) (Only Iowa and Minnesota as permitted by State Regulatory Commissions)

A voice grade circuit switched line provides a payphone service provider with a line side connection to the circuit switched network. This line side connection could include alternative types of network connection, address and supervisory in-band or out-of-band signaling.

Basic Features

Answer Supervision - Line Side

Passes the network answer supervision signal to the receiving payphone.

Blocking for 10XXX1+/10XXX011+

Blocks 10XXX1+/10XXX011+ calls while allowing 10XXX0 calls.

International Blocking

Blocks 011+/10XXX011+ calls.

Billed Number Screening (Incoming Fraud Protection)

An indicator to the operator that collect or third number billed calls cannot be billed to the line.

CUSTOMNET (Outgoing Fraud Protection)

Appears on operator work station for 0- calls and tells the operator what calls and billing options to allow or disallow.

INDEX

Tariff/Price List/Catalog References for Basic Services and Features

Illustrative State Tariff for Smart Public Access Line Service

Illustrative FCC Tariff for Basic Features

State Tariffs/Catalogs for Basic Public Access Line Service

Colorado

Southern Idaho

Washington

State Tariff for Single Party Flat Rate Service - Business

Minnesota

State Catalog for Answer Supervision - Line Side

Nebraska

State Tariff for Blocking for 10XXX1+/10XXX011+

Arizona

State Price List for International Blocking Service

Minnesota

FCC Tariff for International Blocking Service

State Tariff for Billed Number Screening (Incoming Fraud Protection)

Oregon

State Tariff for CUSTOMNET (Outgoing Fraud Protection)

Oregon

EXHIBIT B

Tariff/Price List/Catalog References for Basic Services and Features

Basic Services

Smart Public Access Line Service

All States See Attached Illustrative Tariff

Basic Public Access Line Service

AZ	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
CO-El Paso	Colorado PUC No. 6
CO-USWC	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ID-NO	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ID-SO	Basic Local Exchange Tariff
	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
IA	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
MN	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
MT	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
NE	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
NM	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ND	Exchange and Network Services Price Schedule
	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
OR-MAL	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
OR-USWC	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
SD	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
UT	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
WA	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
WY	Exchange and Network Services Price Schedule

Single Party Flat Rate Service - Business (where permitted for payphone services)

IA	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
MN	Exchange and Network Services Tariff

Basic Features

Answer Supervision - Line Side

FCC	See Attached Illustrative Tariff
AZ	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
CO	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ID-SO	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
IA	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
MN	Exchange and Network Services Price List
NE	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
NM	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ND	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
OR-USWC	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
SD	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
UT	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
WA	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
WY	Exchange and Network Services Price Schedule

Blocking for 10XXX1+/10XXX011+

AZ	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
CO	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ID-NO	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ID-SO	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
IA	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
MN	Exchange and Network Services Price List
MT	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
NE	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
NM	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ND	Exchange and Network Services Price Schedule
OR-MAL	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
OR-USWC	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
SD	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
UT	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
WA	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
WY	Exchange and Network Services Price Schedule

International Blocking

FCC	Tariff No. 5 Section 13
MN	Exchange and Network Services Price List

Billed Number Screening (Incoming Fraud Protection)

FCC	See Attached Illustrative Tariff
AZ	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
CO-El Paso	Colorado PUC No. 6
CO-USWC	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ID-SO	Basic Local Exchange Tariff
	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
IA	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
MN	Exchange and Network Services Price List
MT	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
NE	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
NM	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ND	Exchange and Network Services Price Schedule
OR-MAL	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
OR-USWC	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
SD	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
UT	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
WA	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
WY	Exchange and Network Services Price Schedule

CUSTOMNET (Outgoing Fraud Protection)

FCC	See Attached Illustrative Tariff
AZ	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
CO-El Paso	Colorado PUC No. 6
CO-USWC	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ID-NO	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
ID-SO	Basic Local Exchange Tariff
IA	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
MN	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
MT	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
NE	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
NM	Exchange and Network Services Tariff

CUSTOMNET (Outgoing Fraud Protection) (cont.)

ND	Exchange and Network Services Price Schedule
OR-MAL	Exchange and Network Services Catalog
OR-USWC	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
SD	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
UT	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
WA	Exchange and Network Services Tariff
WY	Exchange and Network Services Price Schedule